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Westminster, February 17.

THIS Day His Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Sir William Oldes, Gentleman-Usher of the Black-Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to

An Act for granting an Aid to His Majesty by a Land-Tax in Great-Britain *for the Service of the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixteen*

An Act to attaint John *Earl of* Mar, William Murray, *Esq; commonly called Marquess of* Tullibardine, James *Earl of* Linlithgow, *and* John Drummond, *Esq; commonly called Lord* Drummond, *of High-Treason.*

And to one private Bill.

After which, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most Gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Take this Opportunity of Acquainting you, that My Forces have obliged the Pretender to Fly out of Scotland; *and he is since, as I am informed, Landed near* Gravelines: *But I don't know yet whether any Country in Amity with Us will give him Protection, after having so publickly Invaded Our Kingdom.*

The Dangers to which the Nation was exposed, made Me determine, That neither the extraordinary Rigour of the Season, nor any fallacious Proposal of the Rebels, should divert Me from Using all possible Endeavours towards putting a speedy and effectual End to this unnatural Rebellion.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must return you My Thanks for the great Progress you have made in the Supplies. The necessary Dispositions are made for Raising additional Forces: But as I shall always Consult the Ease of My People, as far as it is consistent with their own Security, I shall not make use of the Confidence you have placed in Me, unless the restless Malice of Our Enemies should make it necessary to go on with those Levies.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I promise My self, from the Zeal and Wisdom of this Parliament, that the future Happiness and Tranquillity of My Subjects will be established on a solid Foundation, and such Measures taken, as may deprive Our Enemies at Home of the Power (since that alone can deprive them of the Inclination) again to Attempt the Disturbance of My Government. This therefore is what I think My self Obliged to Recommend to you, as a Deliberation of the utmost Importance to the future Safety, & c. and Prosperity of My People.

St. James's, Feb. 17. The following Association and Address have been presented to His Majesty.

An Association of the Lord-Lieutenant, High-Sheriff, Deputy-Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, Clergy, Gentlemen, and other Freeholders of the County of Gloucester; and also of the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, and other Inhabitants of the City of Gloucester. Presented to His Majesty by William Kingscott, Esq; introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Berkeley, Lord-Lieutenant of the said County.

An humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Gentlemen, Clergy, and other Inhabitants of Saffron-Walden, in the County of Essex. Presented to His Majesty by the Honourable James Howard, Esq; introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Manchester, in the Absence of the Right Honourable the Earl of Suffolk and Bindon, Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of that County.

Which Association and Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

Geneva, Feb. 12. We have repeated Advices from Turin, that the King of Sicily is augmenting his Forces, and is often reviewing and exercising his Troops. On the 17th of last Month the Electoral Prince of Saxony passed through Chambery in his Way from Lions to Venice: He would not accept any of the Honours offered him by the Governour of that Town, as travelling incognito: But he lay one Night at Rivoli, and was there entertained by the King of Sicily's Officers, who were sent thither to attend him with His Majesty's Coaches, and to invite him to the Court of Turin; but he excused himself, and proceeded directly on his Journey. We hear from Lions and the Frontier Towns, that the late raising of the Coyn in France has had very ill Effects, creating such Disorder in all Business, that there begins to be a general Deadness of Trade; and this Project, instead of drawing Money into that Kingdom, occasions its being privately exported.

Aberdeen, Feb. 8. Yesterday at Nine in the Morning the Van of the Rebels marched from hence, as did their Rear about Two in the Afternoon. The Duke of Argyll is advanced hither, with a Detachment of 50 Dragoons and 400 Foot, and the rest of the Army under his Command is come into our Neighbourhood. On the 6th General Gordon, who now commands the Remains of the Forces of the Rebels, produced to them here a Letter from the Pretender, in which he acquaints his Friends, that the Disappointments he had met with, especially from Abroad, had obliged him to leave this Country; that he thanked them for their Services, and desired them to advise with the said General Gordon, and consult their own Security, either by keeping in a Body, or separating. At the same Time that General acquainted them, that they could not receive any more Pay. The main Body of the Rebels was to march last Night to Old Meldrum. About 200 of their Horse, amongst which are many of their Chiefs, with Irish and other Officers who came lately from France, are gone towards Peterhead, in order to imbark there. The Duke of Argyll has detached Major-General Evans, with 200 Dragoons and 400 Foot, to endeavour to intercept them, if finding they cannot get off at Peterhead they make towards Fraserburgh, as 'tis said they design to do.

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